The Round Lake City Council met in regular session on Thursday, August 11th, 2022 at 6:30pm at City Hall. Councilmembers present were Paul Cunningham, Jennifer Rehnelt, Walon Habben, Randy Rowe and Mayor Timothy Kennedy. Others present were Bruce Bentele, Deputy Walker and Clerk Elaine Walker. Derek Nelson was absent.

Meeting was called to order at 6:30pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Additions to the agenda: Cemetery Fence, Election results for the school referendum and the Home Initiative Meeting.

Motion by Habben, second by Cunningham to approve the agenda and the additions to the agenda. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve the minutes from the July 12th regular meeting and the July 22nd special meeting. All ayes: Carried.

Motion by Cunningham, second by Rowe to approve paying the claims for August totaling $101,715.99 including online payments made to avoid late fees and checks #23085-23119. July receipts totaling $137,866.70. All ayes: Carried.

Round Lake Fire Department applied for and received a matching grant from the MN DNR and will get more information to the Council when more is available. The grant amount is $2,500 and will be used to purchase new nozzles for the fire hoses.

Building Permit – Jeff Markus – Move in garage that will be used as a house. Council called Jeff and discussed details, made revisions to the application and approved with revisions and Jeff needs to sign the application after reviewing the revisions and date it. Motion by Rowe, second by Habben to approve with revisions and new signature, accepting those revisions. Councilmember Rehnelt abstained from the vote. Cunningham voted aye. Carried.

Building Permit Update – Mike Walker – fence between his property and Mike Smith’s. Renewed approve permit from 2021. Motion by Rehnelt, second by Habben. All ayes: Carried.

Local Government Aid for 2023 will be $129,155. Council is to start thinking about the budget for 2023. September meeting will be rough draft presentation.

The Air Conditioner for the former bank building quote came back as $5,211.00. Schwalbach will be installing the new AC unit and the City will hire an electrician to do the electrical work necessary. Motion by Cunningham, second by Rowe to approve ordering new AC unit. Multiple bids for replacement will be necessary for the next repairs when needed. Unless it’s an emergency situation. All ayes: Carried.

Three new security doors will be installed on City Hall and the quote for all three is $4,496.38. Council suggested getting two installed with keypad access for employees. The one from shop to the men’s bathroom and the one on the new wall in entryway will have keypads. The third door will be exit only from Clerk Elaine’s office. Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to approve the three doors. All ayes: Carried.

Mark Shepherd, Atty has presented an increase in his hourly rate. Previously the rate was $275/hr, new pricing is $350/hr. Motion to accept new pricing by Habben, second by Rowe. All ayes: Carried.

Bruce Bentele would like permission to talk to Nobles County about seal coating the streets in town while they are doing the surrounding roads. The Council budgets every year for street repairs, so this would qualify as an expense under that category on the budget.

Rod Sather wants the City to put the cemetery fence back in. Asked the Council to consider a wrought iron style, rough estimate of cost would be $30,000 – 60,000.00. Council stood by their decision to leave fence out for now. City Hall has received nothing but positive comments since the fence was removed.

The school referendum vote did not pass, by a 7 vote difference, 219 No and 212 Yes.

Nobles County is having an informational meeting about the Nobles Home Initiative Program on August 30, 2022 at 1:00pm in the Farmers Room. Clerk Elaine plans to attend and offered the information to the Council if anyone is interested in going.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 5, 2022 for Labor Day.

The next City Council meeting will be on Wednesday, September 14th, 2022 at 6:30pm at City Hall.

Motion by Habben, second by Rehnelt to adjourn. All ayes: Carried.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.